GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4278
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2016
Access to Electricity
Kothapalli Smt. Geetha;Simha Shri Prathap

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 300 million people in the country do not have access to electricity, power cuts are rampant and per capita power consumption is significantly lower than the world average, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the country is likely to experience the energy surplus of 1.1 per cent during the current financial year as per the 2016-17 report of the Central Electricity Authority, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether only people who are connected to the grid and have access to electricity at present are taken into consideration while calculating power demand and which is the reason for energy surplus, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the State Discoms are unable to buy power due to their poor financial health, if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures being taken to improve their financial status; and

(e) whether Government proposes for a robust power pricing mechanism in coming days, if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER,
COAL, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) : As per census 2011, out of total 24,67,40,228 households in the country, 16,59,35,192 households were using electricity as the main source of lighting.

The per capita consumption of electricity in India is less than the global average. As reported on International Energy Agency (IEA) website, the per capita electricity consumption in the country and Global Average is given under:

Year Per Capita Consumption of India (Kwh) Global Average Per Capita Consumption (Kwh)*
2011-12 884 2972
2012-13 914 3026
* Basic data obtained from IEA website except India. Data of global average is from January to December.

(b) : As per the Load Generation Balance Report (LGBR) for the year 2016-17, published by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the energy availability in the country is likely to be in excess of energy requirement by about 1.1% during the year as per details given below.

ENERGY				PEAK			
Requirement (MU)	Availability (MU)	Surplus (+) / Deficit (-) (MU)	(%)	Peak Demand (MW)	Peak Met (MW)	Surplus (+) / Deficit(-) (MW)	(%)
1,214,642	1,227,895	13,252	1.1	165,253	169,503	4,250	2.6

(c) : No, Madam. The unconnected households, which are planned to be connected to the electricity grid during the year by the respective State Governments, are also considered in the projections made by the state utilities for assessing energy requirement for the forthcoming year.

(d) : A scheme namely Ujwal Discom Assurance Yojana (UDAY) was notified by Ministry of Power on 20.11.2015 for Operational and Financial Turnaround of Power Distribution Companies (DISCOMs) with an objective to improve the operational and financial efficiency of State owned DISCOMs. Participating States would undertake to achieve operational and financial turnaround of DISCOMs with the measures outlined in the Scheme. Two new schemes have also been launched by the Government of India, namely, Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) and Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) for strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution networks and for segregation of agricultural feeders to give adequate and reliable supply and reduce line losses. These will also strengthen the DISCOMs financially.

(e) : As per the Electricity Act, 2003, the tariff for power is determined by the appropriate Commission. The following initiatives have been taken for efficient pricing of power:-

i. Ministry of Power, Government of India has notified the revised Tariff Policy on 28.01.2016 with the objective, inter alia, to ensure availability of electricity to consumers at reasonable and competitive rates.

ii. To bring the competitiveness and transparency, Discovery of Efficient Electricity Price (DEEP) portal has been launched for procurement of power for short term by the power utilities.

iii. The flexibility in utilization of domestic coal has been introduced which aims at reduction in cost of power.

iv. Transmission system has been augmented to achieve transfer of power from surplus region to the deficit region thus reducing the power purchase cost.

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